
Theoretical Concepts in Particle Physics (5)

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Yesterday...

- Symmetries
- \mathcal{L} is:
 - The most general one that is invariant under some symmetries
 - We work up to some order (usually 4)
- How do we “built” invariants?

Invariant of complex numbers

- $U(1)$ is rotation in 1d complex space
- Each complex number comes with a q that tells us how much it rotates
- When we rotate the space by an angle θ , the number rotate as

$$X \rightarrow e^{iq\theta} X$$

- Consider $q_X = 1$, $q_Y = 2$, $q_Z = 3$ and write 3rd and 4th order invariants

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$$XX^*YY^* \quad X^2Y^* \quad XYZ^* \quad X^3Z^* \quad Y^2X^*Z^*$$

$SU(2)$

- $U(2)$ is rotation in 2d complex space. We have $U(2) = SU(2) \times U(1)$
- $SU(2)$ is locally the same as rotation in 3d real space
- Rotations in this space are non-Abelian (non-commutative)
- It depends on the representation: scalar, spinor, vector
- Spin in QM is described by $SU(2)$ rotations, so we use the same language to describe it
- For the SM all we care is that $1/2 \times 1/2 \ni 0$ so we know how to generate singlets
- How can we generate invariants from spin $1/2$ and spin $3/2$?

$SU(3)$

- $U(3)$ is rotation in 3d complex space. We have $U(3) = SU(3) \times U(1)$
- The representations we care about are singlets, triplets and octets
- Unlike $SU(2)$, in $SU(3)$ we have complex representations, 3 and $\bar{3}$
- The three quarks form a triplet (the three colors)
- To form a singlet we need to know that

$$3 \times \bar{3} \ni 1 \quad 3 \times 3 \times 3 \ni 1$$

- This is why we have baryons and mesons

A game

A game calls “building invariants”

- Symmetry is $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$
 - $U(1)$: Add the numbers (\bar{X} has charge $-q$)
 - $SU(2)$: $2 \times 2 \ni 1$ and recall that 1 is a singlet
 - $SU(3)$: we need $3 \times \bar{3} \ni 1$ and $3 \times 3 \times 3 \ni 1$

● Fields are

$$Q(3, 2)_1 \quad U(3, 1)_4 \quad D(3, 1)_{-2} \quad H(1, 2)_3$$

● What 3rd and 4th order invariants can we built?

$$(HH^*)^2 \quad H^3 \quad UDD \quad QUD \quad HQU^*$$

● HW: Find more invariants

Lorentz invariants

Lorentz invariants

- The representations we care about are
 - Singlet: Spin zero (scalars, denote by ϕ)
 - LH and RH fields: Spin half (fermions, ψ_L, ψ_R)
 - Vector: Spin one (gauge boson, denote by A_μ)
- Fermions are more complicated

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \bar{\psi} \partial_\mu \gamma^\mu \psi$$

- Since \mathcal{L} has dimension 4, ψ is dimension 3/2
- For fermions when we expand up to 4th order we can have at most two fermion fields
- Under Lorentz, the basic fields are left-handed and right-handed. A mass term must involve both $m\bar{\psi}_L\psi_R$

Local symmetries

Local symmetry

Basic idea: rotations depend on x and t

$$\phi(x_\mu) \rightarrow e^{iq\theta} \phi(x_\mu) \xrightarrow{\text{local}} \phi(x_\mu) \rightarrow e^{iq\theta(x_\mu)} \phi(x_\mu)$$

- It is kind of logical and we think that all imposed symmetries in Nature are local
- The kinetic term $|\partial_\mu\phi|^2$ is not invariant
- We want a kinetic term (why?)
- We can save the kinetic term if we add a field that is
 - Massless
 - Spin 1
 - Adjoint representation: $q = 0$ for $U(1)$, triplet for $SU(2)$, and octet for $SU(3)$

Gauge symmetry

- Fermions are called matter fields. What they are and their representation is an input
- Gauge fields are known as force fields

Local symmetries \Rightarrow force fields

Gauge symmetry

- The coupling of the new field is via the kinetic term. Recall classical electromagnetism

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} \Rightarrow H = \frac{(p - qA_i)^2}{2m}$$

- In QFT, for a local $U(1)$ symmetry and a field with charge q

$$\partial_\mu \rightarrow D_\mu \quad D_\mu = \partial_\mu + iqA_\mu$$

- We get interaction from the kinetic term

$$|D_\mu\phi|^2 = |\partial_\mu\phi + iqA_\mu\phi|^2 \ni qA\phi^2 + q^2A^2\phi^2$$

- The interaction is proportional to q

Accidental symmetries

- We only impose local symmetries
- Yet, because we truncate the expansion, we can get symmetries as output
- They are global, and are called accidental
- Example: $U(1)$ with $X(q = 1)$ and $Y(q = -4)$

$$V(XX^*, YY^*) \Rightarrow U(1)_X \times U(1)_Y$$

- X^4Y breaks this symmetry
- In the SM baryon and lepton numbers are accidental symmetries

SSB

Breaking a symmetry



SSB

- By choosing a ground state we break the symmetry
- We choose to expand around a point that does not respect the symmetry
- PT only works when we expand around a minimum

What is the different between a broken symmetry and no symmetry?

SSB implies relations between parameters

SSB

Symmetry is $x \rightarrow -x$ and we keep up to x^4

$$f(x) = a^2 x^4 - 2b^2 x^2 \quad x_{\min} = \pm b/a$$

We choose to expand around $+b/a$ and use $u \rightarrow x - b/a$

$$f(x) = 4b^2 u^2 + 4bau^3 + a^2 u^4$$

- No $u \rightarrow -u$ symmetry
- The $x \rightarrow -x$ symmetry is hidden
- A general function has 3 parameters $c_2 u^2 + c_3 u^3 + c_4 u^4$
- SSB implies a relation between them

$$c_3^2 = 4c_2 c_4$$

SSB in QFT

- When we expand the field around a minimum that is not invariant under a symmetry

$$\phi \rightarrow v + H$$

- It breaks the symmetries that ϕ is not a singlet under
- Masses to other fields via Yukawa interactions

$$\phi X^2 \rightarrow (v + H)X^2 = vX^2 + \dots$$

- Gauge fields of the broken symmetries also get mass

$$|D_\mu \phi|^2 = |\partial_\mu \phi + iqA_\mu \phi|^2 \ni A^2 \phi^2 \rightarrow v^2 A^2$$

The SM

The SM

Input: Symmetries and fields

- Symmetry: 4d Poincare and

$$SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

- Fields:

- 3 copies of QUDLE fermions

$$\begin{array}{lll} Q_L(3, 2)_{1/6} & U_R(3, 1)_{2/3} & D_R(3, 1)_{-1/3} \\ L_L(1, 2)_{-1/2} & E_R(1, 1)_{-1} & \end{array}$$

- One scalar

$$\phi(1, 2)_{+1/2}$$

Then Nature is described by

- Output: the most general \mathcal{L} up to dim 4
- This model has a $U(1)_B \times U(1)_e \times U(1)_\mu \times U(1)_\tau$ accidental symmetry
- Initial set of measurements to find the parameters
 - SSB: $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \rightarrow U(1)_{EM}$
 - Fermion masses, gauge couplings and mixing angles

The SM pass (almost) all of it tests

Nature



Infinites and all that

Why we “cut” at ϕ^4 ?

- Any theory have limits: We call them UV and IR limits
- Higher dim. operators are more sensitive to the UV
- $d = 3$ we can calculate. $d = 4$ we need to be careful
- Just like the energy of a point like charged particle

$$U \propto \int |E|^2 dV \propto \int \frac{\alpha^2}{r^4} r^2 dr \sim \frac{1}{r} \Big|_0^\infty \rightarrow \infty$$

- We can still calculate it if we care about change of energy of a test particle
- What really takes care of this infinity?
- Higher dim operators must point into a deeper theory